

Executive Registry  
60-6448/P

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Aug

*careful*  
Mrs. Samuel Senenfield

Dear Mrs. Senenfield:

I have received and have read with close attention your thoughtful letter of August 18, 1960, raising a number of questions with regard to the Powers trial.

As you can well appreciate, many of the points on which you asked my comment, are still in the classified field, and it would not be possible for me to write you about them. Furthermore, even though the trial itself is over, Powers is still a prisoner of the Soviet and we should be careful in our comments that we do nothing to make his own situation more difficult.

Possibly some day you will be passing through Washington, and I will have an opportunity to talk with you further about some of the points you raise.

At this time about all I would add is that you should take into account the fact that Powers was over a hundred days in solitary confinement without access to family, friends, his own legal advisors, or any U.S. Embassy representative prior to the trial, that undoubtedly the Soviets had drummed into his mind what they wished to come out of the trial, and that this can be done and be effective even short of the techniques of "brain washing," as in the Korean cases to which you refer.

(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE 5)

Also, I want you to know that in selecting the pilots for such difficult missions, no one went out into the open market to try to lure candidates by the pay scale, which, I may add, is about equivalent to that which a chief pilot on one of our airlines receives today. On the contrary, persons whose past training and other technical, mental and ideological outlook seemed to qualify them for this job, were chosen on the basis of these qualifications and willingness to serve with full knowledge of the dangers. There never was a sought applicant for these positions.

Sharing with you fully the sentiments you express in the closing paragraph of your letter, I only wish I could be more responsive at this time, but it would not be in the interests of the prisoner or of national security to do so.

Faithfully yours,

(Signed) ALLEN W. DULLES

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

DPD-DD/P:JAC:mg (23 Aug 60)

Rewritten AWD:at

Distribution:

Orig - Addressee

1 cc - DCI

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1 cc - ER w/basic ✓

1 cc - Col. Grogan

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Mr Allen Dulles  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C.

60-6448

My dear Mr Dulles:

Are you at liberty to comment on the following observation? I have been reading the Chicago Tribune account of the <sup>Q-2</sup> contract arrangement between the CIA & Lockheed Aircraft Co. whereby Lockheed provided pilots, planes & maintenance, the pilots being under a civilian contract. Mr Powers was one of these, who was captured & is now claiming ~~strategy~~ <sup>intelligence</sup> ignorance of the overall ~~strategy~~ <sup>intelligence</sup> & what seems to me to be a basic lack of conviction about his minute but important role in our national defense effort.

I note some similarity in his presentation, as reported, and

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the reports of our Korean war  
prisoners who reported that they  
disturbed about this "I am  
a mere unwitting pawn" role.  
expressed by this college educated  
man, with our Force Training  
to me it seems to indicate  
either a lack of elementary orientation  
to the American goal & way of life,  
or else a deliberate & calculated  
choice of personnel who have no  
personal commitments beyond the  
financial rewards of a well paying  
job. I am distressed at the new  
reports of Powers as the poor boy  
victim of our system. This, of course  
is what the Russians ~~which~~ <sup>wish</sup> to achieve  
& the questions reflect this, & may  
also be designed to elicit sympathy  
for him as such. However my  
question remains - is this kind  
of person the best to use because,  
if apprehended ~~because~~ <sup>he can</sup> honestly  
disassociate himself from every  
aspect of the effort except that  
of piloting the planes. And, if

3  
this is true why was he provided  
with what was termed, suicide  
equipment?"

Perhaps I am criticizing the  
contract arrangement plan which  
is now formally revealed, such  
a contract, even with the appropriate  
clearance which I am sure your  
Agency makes, might well attract  
persons of Powers background  
whom I fear lack the personal  
stamina when the going gets rough,  
but who perform adequately for  
good pay, on routine assignments.  
I am inclined to favor the use of  
Air Force, specially qualified & paid.  
Knowing, as I do from overseas war  
service, the importance of the individual's  
identification with some established  
group & tradition.

I am a very proud & grateful  
American and also an inquisitive  
one. Could you answer this when  
you feel it suitable. It is for my  
own information only. Thank you

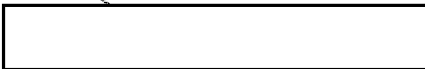


CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Mrs. Samuel Sonenfield

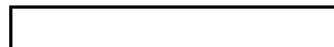


Dear Mrs. Sonenfield:

I am replying to your letter of August 18th on behalf of Mr. Allen W. Dulles, Director of Central Intelligence.

Unfortunately for the purposes of your inquiry, this Agency is not in a position to comment upon the proceedings of the recent Powers' trial in Moscow. Nevertheless, your thoughtful comments have received careful consideration, and are greatly appreciated.


Sincerely yours,



Assistant to the Director

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Dulles

Attached is our proposed reply to a very thoughtful letter from Mrs. Donenfield concerning the U-2 trial and Powers' performance therein. This may be the forerunner of additional correspondence generated by the trial so before sending this reply, I thought I would get your reaction to it.



FMC

24 August 60

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(DATE)

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1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

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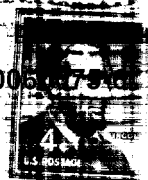
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*Wills to Sonfield*

AUG 18

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VIA AIR MAIL  
CORREO AEREO  
PAR AVION

*Mr Allen Dulles  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington*

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OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP**

TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	INITIALS	DATE
1	MR. HELMS, COPS		
2			
3	<i>The Director</i>		
4			
5			
6			

<input type="checkbox"/> ACTION	<input type="checkbox"/> DIRECT REPLY	<input type="checkbox"/> PREPARE REPLY
<input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL	<input type="checkbox"/> DISPATCH	<input type="checkbox"/> RECOMMENDATION
<input type="checkbox"/> COMMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> FILE	<input type="checkbox"/> RETURN
<input type="checkbox"/> CONCURRENCE	<input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE

**Remarks:**

Dick:

The Director asks that you look this over and check it with anyone in DPD you think appropriate, and let him know if you have any reservations about his sending this on out.

*1 to 3*

*DPD and I concurred in this text.*

*2.* FMC

FOLD HERE RETURN TO SENDER

FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.	DATE
O/DCI, 221 Admin, <i>[Redacted]</i>	8/28/60

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